

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 AID-20 /152 W

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R 051847Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1666

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 7299

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, BL

SUBJ: FURTHER SIGNS OF MNR DISSENSION

REF: LA PAZ 7265

1. ON DECEMBER 5, HIGH MNR OFFICIALS, INCLUDING CIRO HUMBOLDT, SUB-CHIEF, RUBEN JULIO CASTRO, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND JUAN JOSE RIVERA, SECRETARY GENERAL, ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE POINTING OUT THAT THE CHIEFS OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMANDS, AND SPECIAL AND FUNCTIONAL CELLS HAD MADE KNOWN TO THE SUB-CHIEF THEIR DESIRE THAT VICTOR PAZ' DECISION TO WITHDRAW THE MNR FROM THE FPN BE SUBMITTED TO A NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF PARTY LEADERS OR TO A NATIONAL CONVENTION FOR RATIFICATION. THE COMMUNIQUE URGED THAT THE OPINION OF WORKERS ON THE MNR'S DEPARTURE FROM THE GOB HAD TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT FOR THEY DEPEND ON THE MNR FOR THE DEFENSE OF THEIR RIGHTS. FINALLY, THE COMMUNIQUE ADDED THAT THE FOUR MNR MINISTERS IN THE GOVERNMENT (FRANCO, LEMA PATINO, BULACIA AND OTERO) HAD PROMISED THAT THEY WOULD RUN THEIR MINISTRIES IN ACCORD WITH MNR PRINCIPLES.

2. CIRO HUMBOLDT PROVIDED THE PRESS WITH A STATEMENT OF HIS OWN IN WHICH HE RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED DR. PAZ TO RESTUDY HIS POSITION ON WITHDRAWAL FROM THE FPN. HUMBOLDT FELT THAT THE APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THIS ISSUE WOULD BE A NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF PARTY LEADERS. HUMBOLDT ADDED THAT

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UNTIL THAT CONFERENCE TOOK PLACE THE MNR WOULD MAINTAIN TIES

WITH THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE FOUR MNR MINISTERS AND THAT HE WOULD PROVISIONALLY COORDINATE THE PARTY'S CONTACTS WITH THE MINISTERS.

COMMENT: AN IMPRESSIVE NUMBER OF MNR ACTIVISTS AND HIGH RANKING MEMBERS OF THE PARTY BUREAUCRACY ARE CHALLENGING PAZ' DECISION TO WITHDRAW THE PARTY FROM THE FPN. NEVERTHELESS, THE DISSIDENTS HAVE NOT YET DARED TO ATTACK PAZ, AND IT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO LEAD THE MNR ALONG LINES NOT IN ACCORD WITH HIS WISHES SINCE THE DISSIDENTS THEMSELVES APPEAR TO RECOGNIZE THAT AN MNR WITHOUT VICTOR PAZ WOULD BE A SIGNIFICANTLY SMALLER FORCE IN BOLIVIAN POLITICS.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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